

1 AN ACT concerning health.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Drug  
5 Overdose Prevention Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Opioid antagonist" means naloxone hydrochloride or any  
8 other similarly acting and equally safe drug approved by the  
9 U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of drug  
10 overdose.

11 "Department" means the Department of Human Services  
12 Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse.

13 "Director" means the Director of the Department of Human  
14 Services Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse.

15 Section 10. Reports of drug overdose.

16 (a) The Director shall publish a report on drug overdose  
17 trends statewide that reviews State death rates from available  
18 data to ascertain changes in the causes or rates of fatal and  
19 nonfatal drug overdose for the preceding period of not less  
20 than 5 years. The report shall also provide information on  
21 interventions that would be effective in reducing the rate of  
22 fatal or nonfatal drug overdose.

23 (b) The report shall include:

24 (1) trends in drug overdose death rates;

25 (2) trends in emergency room utilization related to  
26 drug overdoses and the cost impact of emergency room  
27 utilization;

28 (3) trends in utilization of pre-hospital and  
29 emergency services and the cost impact of emergency  
30 services utilization;

31 (4) suggested improvements in data collection; and

1 (5) a description of other interventions effective in  
2 reducing the rate of fatal or nonfatal drug overdoses.

3 Section 15. Programs; drug overdose prevention.

4 (a) The Director shall establish a program to provide for  
5 the production and publication of drug overdose prevention,  
6 recognition, and response literature. The program shall also  
7 provide assistance in the development of curricula for use by  
8 professionals, organizations, individuals, or committees  
9 interested in the prevention of fatal and nonfatal drug  
10 overdose, including, but not limited to, drug users, jail and  
11 prison personnel, jail and prison inmates, drug treatment  
12 professionals, emergency medical personnel, hospital staff,  
13 families and associates of drug users, peace officers,  
14 firefighters, public safety officers, needle exchange program  
15 staff, and other interested people. In addition to information  
16 regarding drug overdose prevention, recognition and response,  
17 literature produced by the Department shall stress that drug  
18 use remains illegal and highly dangerous and that complete  
19 abstinence from illegal drug use is the healthiest choice.

20 (b) The Director shall provide advice to State and local  
21 officials on the growing drug overdose crisis, including the  
22 prevalence of drug overdose incidents, trends in drug overdose  
23 incidents, and solutions to the drug overdose crisis.

24 Section 20. Grants.

25 (a) The Director shall award grants, in accordance with  
26 this Section, to support local drug overdose prevention,  
27 recognition, and response projects. Municipal health  
28 departments, correctional institutions, and community-based  
29 organizations may apply to the Department for a grant pursuant  
30 to this Section at such time and in such manner as the Director  
31 prescribes.

32 (b) In awarding grants, the Director shall consider the  
33 necessity for overdose prevention projects in various settings  
34 and shall encourage all grant applicants to develop

1 interventions that will be effective and viable in their local  
2 areas.

3 (c) The Director shall give preference for grants to  
4 proposals that, in addition to providing life-saving  
5 interventions and responses, provide information to drug users  
6 on how to access drug treatment or other strategies for  
7 abstaining from illegal drugs. The Director shall give  
8 preference to proposals that include one or more of the  
9 following elements:

10 (1) policies and projects to encourage people,  
11 including drug users, to call 9-1-1 when they witness a  
12 potentially fatal drug overdose;

13 (2) drug overdose prevention, recognition and response  
14 education projects in jails, prisons, drug treatment  
15 centers, and other organizations that work with, or have  
16 access to, drug users, their families and communities;

17 (3) drug overdose recognition and response training,  
18 including rescue breathing, in jails, prisons, drug  
19 treatment centers, and other organizations that work with,  
20 or have access to, drug users, their families and  
21 communities;

22 (4) the production and distribution of targeted or mass  
23 media materials on drug overdose prevention and response;

24 (5) naloxone hydrochloride prescription or  
25 distribution projects;

26 (6) the institution of education and training projects  
27 on drug overdose response and treatment for emergency  
28 services and law enforcement personnel; or

29 (7) a system of parent, family, and survivor education  
30 and mutual support groups.

31 The Director shall seek grants from private foundations,  
32 the federal government, and other sources to fund the grants  
33 under this Section and to fund an evaluation of the programs  
34 supported by the grants.

35 Section 25. Prescription; administration. A licensed

1 health care professional that is permitted by law to prescribe  
2 an opioid antagonist may, in an emergency situation and without  
3 a fee, prescribe, dispense, distribute, or administer an opioid  
4 antagonist without being liable for damages in a professional  
5 or civil action or subject to criminal prosecution, except for  
6 willful and wanton misconduct.

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
8 becoming law.